

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1,4,6,7,9 and 18 are currently pending in the present application.

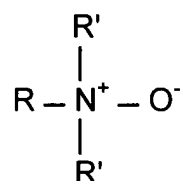
1. A method for treating a subterranean formation comprising:

providing an aqueous viscoelastic treating fluid having:

an aqueous base fluid; and

one or more non-ionic amido amine oxide surfactant gelling agents

having the formula:



where R is an alkylamido group averaging from about 8 to 274 carbon atoms and R' are independently hydrogen or alkyl groups averaging from about 1 to 3 carbon atoms as the only gelling agents employed;

injecting the aqueous viscoelastic surfactant treating fluid through a wellbore and into the subterranean formation; and treating the subterranean formation under conditions effective to do so, where treating is selected from ~~the group consisting of~~

~~acidizing the formation where the viscoelastic treating fluid further comprises an acid;~~

~~stimulating the formation where the viscoelastic treating fluid further comprises a stimulating agent; and~~

controlling fluid loss where the viscoelastic treating fluid further comprises a salt or solid; and mixtures thereof, and

breaking the gel of the aqueous viscoelastic treating fluid subsequent to treating said formation.

2. (canceled).

3. (canceled).

4. (original) The method of claim 1 where the non-ionic amido amine oxide surfactant gelling agent is employed is present in the aqueous base fluid in a proportion from about 0.5 to about 25 vol. %.

5. (canceled).

6. (original) The method of claim 1 where the non-ionic amido amine oxide surfactant gelling agent is tallow amido propylamine oxide (TAPAO).

7. (original) The method of claim 1 where the aqueous base fluid is brine.

8. (canceled).

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~further comprising~~ wherein the breaking of the gel of the aqueous viscoelastic treating fluid is accomplished by a mechanism selected from the group consisting of contact with a hydrocarbon, contact with alkoxylated alcohol solvents, dilution, and contact with at least one reactive agent.

Claims 10-18 canceled.